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# South Carolina,

WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO

## AIKEN AND VICINITY,

AS A DESIRABLE LOCATION FOR ACTUAL SETTLERS.

"The varieties of climate, soil and capacities of different countries induces nations as well as individuals to select those pursuits for which they have some natural or acquired advantage, and by this division of labor the aggregate production is largely increased.

JOHN STUART MILLS.

New York:

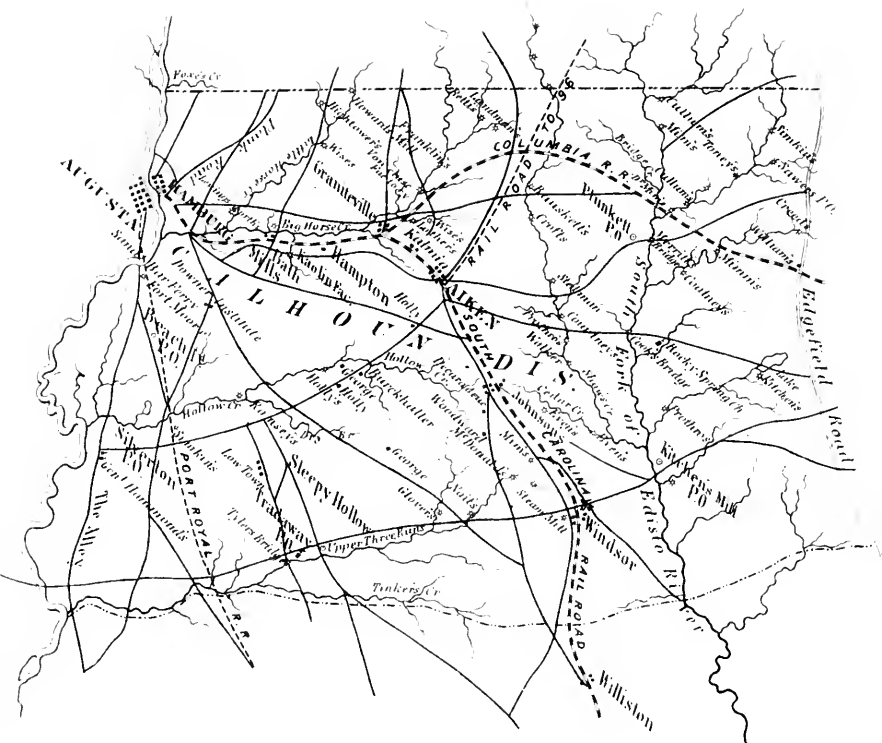
RUSSELL'S AMERICAN STEAM PRINTING HOUSE, 1

28, 30, AND 32 CENTRE STREET.

1867.







# *Section from Charleston.*

*The Hills beyond Columbia with comparative elevation of, taken.*



1. Ed. Water 2. Charleston 3. Brundeville 4. Orangeburg 5. Fort Mott 6. Congaree River 7. Aiken 8. Columbia

# South Carolina,

WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO

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1867.

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# AIKEN AND ITS VICINITY

IN

SOUTH CAROLINA.

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THE great variety of climate and soils embraced within the area of the United States has frequently been the theme for the panegyrists of our country. Each section and each State has some special aptitudes for particular employments: some special advantages over others, which render it peculiarly adapted for certain productions or appropriate pursuits. In general terms, much has been said and written of the immense undeveloped resources of the South; still the ideas of the citizens of other sections are quite frequently vague and undefined, or ridiculous and absurd. Erroneous ideas prevail as to the actual condition of the physical characteristics of the country, as well as of the moral and intellectual characteristics of the people. Statements the most opposite and contradictory, by newspaper correspondents, bureau officials, or transient visitors; some representing everything as "*couleur de rose*," whilst others can hardly find language to express their hatred and dislike of their recent foes.

In a country as vast, extensive and populous as the Southern States, there must necessarily be great diversity in regard to the characteristics of both the people and the country, and what may be true of one section may be inapplicable to another.

Believing that reliable information respecting a district in South Carolina, which offers peculiar attractions to Northern men who desire, now that slavery is abolished, to locate in the "Sunny South," as well as to the thousands of consumptive invalids who are annually forced to migrate, will prove interesting, we propose to give, in the following pages, some account of AIKEN and its vicinity, and the data upon which to found a rational opinion of its advantages.

/ The reputation of Aiken as a resort for invalids affected with pulmonary diseases has extended even beyond the limits of the United States; but there are few who are aware of the resources

or the advantages offered by this vicinity to those seeking permanent homes.

In order to have a proper understanding of the opportunities afforded to enterprising and energetic men, by the results of the war, some of the customs and habits of the residents should be borne in mind. The disparity between different classes was more marked and well defined in the Southern States than in the Northern. The sons of the wealthier classes were taught that it was derogatory to enter pursuits requiring manual labor; consequently, those having an opportunity of acquiring an education were ambitious of being planters (in contradistinction to farmers), physicians, lawyers, merchants, school teachers, &c.; thus there is a superabundance of the non-productive classes and a corresponding want of *educated* farmers, mechanics, artizans, &c.

The employment of slaves in other than agricultural pursuits, or as domestic servants, having been very generally discountenanced, dependence was had for all manufactured goods—even the most bulky and difficult of transportation, on importations; consequently, but few mechanics were to be found. If a watch needed a crystal, or a knife a rivet, or even a tin pan needed mending, it had to be sent to the cities, often more than one hundred miles distant.

Another exemplification is to be found by entering any well-stocked *Southern country store*, where may be found bacon and lard from the West; butter, cheese and hay from New York; onions, beets, and potatoes from Pennsylvania and New Jersey; cotton goods, shoes, tin-ware, wooden-ware and notions from New England. In short, ten thousand articles which might as well, or better, be made on the spot, and for no other reason than the neglect of applying the proper skill, energy and capital to their production; for, as to the manufactured articles, the raw materials of many of them are at hand, and are shipped North to be manufactured and then returned; and as to the animal and vegetable products, the soil and climate is better adapted to their production than the colder climate of the North.

During the war the want of skilled mechanics was felt and acknowledged to be seriously detrimental to our cause, cut off as we were by the blockade from our former sources of supply.

Now, there is a disposition to encourage and support indus-



trious and competent citizens, and it will take many hands and many years to replace the thousands of articles destroyed by the soldiers or worn out during the great struggle.

The climate of South Carolina corresponds with that of the South of France, Italy, Middle Asia and China, which are considered as among the most favored parts of the globe, being a medium between the tropical and cold temperate latitudes; and the position, exposure and descriptions of soil in this vicinity correspond almost exactly with the places, where, according to French authors, the finest vineyards are situated.

Here it is a rare occurrence to see ice a quarter of an inch thick, the thermometer not falling as low as 30 degrees Fahrenheit more than eight or ten days in the year; and delicate plants like the fig, the pomegranate, the azalias and the jasmine flourish in the open air, and in summer the thermometer as seldom rises as high as 95 degrees during the day, and at night it is requisite to have a blanket convenient for use. Vegetation generally lies dormant about eight or nine weeks. Early fruits, such as peaches, plums, apples, &c., blossoming about the middle of February, and the first frosts about the latter part of November.\*

In colonial times, when there were but few slaves, South Carolina was a farming state. In 1747, its exports were rice, corn, barley, oranges, peas, potatoes, onions, live stock, butter, bacon, beef, pork, pitch, tar, turpentine, rosin, masts, booms, oars, indigo, potash, skins, tallow, lard, silk, wax, leather, pot-

\* TABLE PREPARED FOR THE AIKEN VINE GROWING ASSOCIATION, SHOWING THE QUANTITY OF RAIN, NUMBER OF RAINY DAYS, AND MEAN TEMPERATURE, DURING THE FRUIT GROWING SEASON.

MONTHS.	1858.			1859.			1860.			1861.			1862.			1863.								
	Quantity of Rain.....	No Rainy Days.....	Mean of Thermometer..	Quantity of Rain.....	No Rainy Days.....	Mean of Thermometer..	Rain.....	Rainy Days.....	Mean of Thermometer..	Rain.....	Rainy Days.....	Mean of Thermometer..	Rain.....	Rainy Days.....	Mean of Thermometer..	Rain.....	Rainy Days.....	Mean of Thermometer..						
January.....	5.880	6 46	2.705	4 43	0.940	4 47	6.395	6 48	6.210	7 54	3.095	5 47	5.650	10 47	4.140	7 53	7.590	6 48	4.245	7 52	9.460	10 53	5.060	5 46
February.....	5.650	10 47	4.140	7 53	7.590	6 48	4.245	7 52	9.460	10 53	5.060	5 46	3.450	6 51	4.261	4 60	1.065	7 56	2.890	6 56	3.840	6 53	3.925	6 51
March.....	3.450	6 51	4.261	4 60	1.065	7 56	2.890	6 56	3.840	6 53	3.925	6 51	2.910	6 65	4.005	5 63	2.475	8 68	3.580	7 63	5.250	8 63	2.695	6 61
April.....	2.910	6 65	4.005	5 63	2.475	8 68	3.580	7 63	5.250	8 63	2.695	6 61	1.040	6 74	4.070	7 64	2.455	5 68	3.245	8 72	2.650	5 72	3.580	3 68
May.....	1.040	6 74	4.070	7 64	2.455	5 68	3.245	8 72	2.650	5 72	3.580	3 68	6.280	8 81	3.745	5 74	3.070	8 79	1.315	5 82	6.435	8 73	6.285	9 76
June.....	6.280	8 81	3.745	5 74	3.070	8 79	1.315	5 82	6.435	8 73	6.285	9 76	3.905	10 81	4.265	8 78	4.640	6 85	0.550	4 80	4.535	8 78	.....	79
July.....	3.905	10 81	4.265	8 78	4.640	6 85	0.550	4 80	4.535	8 78	.....	79												

ash, sassafras, cooper's ware, soap, candles, bricks, and only seven bales of cotton.

Gradually the production of cotton, rice, and naval stores absorbed the attention of the people to such an extent that these articles were almost the only exports. The abolition of slavery, with the consequent breaking up of the plantation system, necessitates a return to the opposite plan; and as a competent mechanic can command higher wages than an apprentice, so can the Northern man, whose wits have been sharpened by active competition with the various labor-saving contrivances of the North, have a decided advantage over the Southerner who has only employed a system which is now extinct.

As illustrative of our argument, we would call attention to the immense quantities of butter and cheese which are annually received from the North. At the South, not one farmer in a thousand ever thinks of building a house to shelter his cattle, nor makes provision for feeding them regularly, during the winter. They are expected to subsist themselves on the indigenous grasses and shrubs to be found in the wild woods, until the season when the crops are gathered, when they are allowed to glean the fields; and in the winter a scanty allowance of fodder, or corn shucks, are thrown on the ground for them, when they come up at night.

Under such a system it would be supposed that the beef would be of a very inferior quality. On the contrary, strangers often express their admiration of the tender, juicy steaks on which they are regaled. It is evident that a moiety of the care bestowed on animals at the North, would, under the more favorable circumstances at the South, prove a most remunerative business, independent of the value of the manure.

The vast variety of the manufactured articles imported from abroad also shows what a field is open for competition. It is not only such as require complex machinery, but even those of the simplest construction, requiring but few tools and which are made of indigenous materials. Lumber is shipped from this vicinity to be returned as furniture, carriages, wagons, mouldings, sashes, blinds, &c. The kaolin of this section is forwarded to be returned as crockery ware — the cotton as cloth — the hides as shoes, &c., &c., *ad infinitum*.

In March, 1866, the Town Council of Aiken passed a resolution appointing a committee of prominent citizens to adopt such measures as would bring to notice the advantages of the vicinity, and thereby encourage immigration. The committee accordingly submitted a comprehensive report, which was ordered to be printed, and subsequently circulated through the press. The following extract is from that report :

"Desirous of again seeing our native State advancing in wealth and prosperity, and confident that, by a proper use of the opportunities at our disposal, remunerative employment can be afforded to both capital and labor in this immediate vicinity, we would invite attention to and consideration of the advantages here enjoyed.

"The specialties we claim for our district, and to which we invite attention of enterprising and intelligent men, are—

"*First. Unsurpassed salubrity of climate*, noted for its beneficial effects on pulmonary diseases, and enabling the white man to labor, without feeling that lassitude and debility common to low latitudes, and yet enjoy the productions of a Southern clime, with exemption from that pest of the West—Fever and Ague.

"*Second. Adaptation of soil and climate to the production of the finest silks, fruits, wines, and vegetables.*

"*Third. Combination of advantages as a manufacturing district, but most especially for the establishment of potteries.*

"Taking into consideration the locality of Aiken, the superiority of its climate, as attested by the celebrity it already enjoys as a resort for invalids; its intimate connection with the commercial centres of the South by means of the various railroads and water courses alluded to; the extensive power of the cheapest kind afforded by the creeks and streams; the immense deposits of the purest kaolin and other clays, granite and buhr mill-stones; the valuable woods and timber which abound in our forests; the vast demand that exists throughout the South for thousands of articles of every day necessity, as well as of ornament and luxury, which have now to be brought a distance of hundreds, if not thousands of miles; the advantages incident to locating factories where the raw materials are produced, and as near as possible to the consumers, thereby saving the cost of transportation to and fro; and the high protective tariff which must be levied for many years to come, indicate this place as offering inducements and advantages rarely to be found."

The fact of such action by the Town Council and citizens of Aiken, should be a refutation, at least in regard to this section, of the oft-repeated statements, that Northern men are not safe in the South. The want of capital and labor to resuscitate the South after the exhaustion of the late war, is generally felt and acknowledged. Strangers are *invited and* URGED to come and settle in their midst. Gen. Wagener, in his report, says :

"As a law-abiding and orderly community, South Carolina can have no superior; and to her the report of Hon. Mr. Peters, the great agriculturist of New York,

on the condition of the South, peculiarly applies, that 'here the enforcement of the laws is as rigid as in any other State, and property and persons quite as safe; and that in none of the other States of the Union—not excepting any—are the people better protected, or the laws more impartially enforced.'

"As a religious community, South Carolina can proudly refer to her hundreds of churches, that point their spires to heaven from her hills and dales everywhere. And not in pharisaical self-righteousness, but with the truly Christian liberality that knows no difference whatever in sect or creed, but appreciates the good in all.

"As a prosperous and progressive community, South Carolina, although having every element of wealth within reach of her grasp, is just now in a less happy position than might be desired. This must be candidly confessed. But, at the same time, the causes thereof may be as candidly indicated, and the sure and effective remedy suggested. Heretofore, the State relied for her prosperity exclusively upon the rich results of her agricultural pursuits. Her system of African slavery enabled her opulent planters to do without every other branch of industry but that of cultivating the soil. And even in that, their whole attention was given to the raising of the great staples of commerce, and very often even their bread and meat were imported from other parts of the world. Their tools and implements, their wagons, plows, harrows, spades, axes, &c., their boots and shoes, their wearing apparel—all were imported from the North or from Europe. In this manner slavery, which apparently enriched the people by means of the great profits of their staple produce, yet in reality impoverished them by their dependence on others, and by preventing that universal and close industry which enables human society to create within itself all that is requisite to the necessities, comforts, and luxuries of life. But now, slavery has been forever abolished. The African has become free and his own master. And where is now the hope? The hope—the sure guaranty—of success is in the elasticity, determined courage, and manly fortitude of the Carolinians. Instead of repining and sorrowing over the lost comforts and riches of the past, they are boldly and manfully grappling with their necessities of the present, and not unfrequently the planter of former days may be seen guiding his plow or wielding his axe, with an energy which will ensure his future prosperity. It has been reported that manual labor was not honorable in the South. If this ever was a truth, hard work and steady employ have now become fashionable; and whoever cultivates his fields best, and is personally most industrious, is the most successful and the greatest gentleman. And the immigrant, as a brother workingman, will be heartily welcomed, and will meet with encouragement and friendly offices wherever he exhibits habits of industry, frugality, honesty, and thrift. And the Carolinian, furthermore, instead, as formerly, preferring goods from abroad, will now prefer an article made at home, and feel proud of his choice. *What an opening for mechanics of every trade!* Every town, every village in the State, has need of such, and will afford them a competency. Let them come!"\*

Here are lands susceptible of indefinite improvement—a climate unsurpassed for salubrity—raw materials of various kinds and manageable water-powers for the manufacture—home markets and facilities for transportation—a large class of customers,

\* From report of Gen. John A. Wagener, S. C. Commissioner of Emigration.

accustomed to the refinements and luxuries of life, who have depended on foreign markets for their supplies—another class, needing employment, and whose average wages are far less than in the Northern or Western States—schools, churches and courts already established—railroads already constructed—exemption from the extremes of heat and cold—where the ears are daily regaled with the melody of the mocking-bird (than which even the far-famed nightingale's notes are not clearer, sweeter, or more varied), and where the homestead can be perpetually surrounded by fruits and flowers, that in less favored climes are only to be enjoyed by the wealthy, as they require forced temperatures and constant care: such as the fig, the pomegranate, the passion flower, *andromeda plumata*, red azalias, spigelia, cacti, magnolia or *lamel*, *kalmia latifolia*, yellow jasmine, &c.

The town of Aiken is located partly in Barnwell and partly in Edgefield districts—the two largest judicial divisions of the State—comprising, in the aggregate, 3,200 square miles. It is proposed to divide the adjoining districts of Barnwell, Edgefield, Lexington, and Orangeburg, so as to form a new district, to be called Calhoun, in honor of Carolina's great statesman, with the court house at Aiken, which will contain about 600 square miles and a population of 10 or 12,000. The growing importance of this section demands that additional judicial facilities should be afforded the inhabitants, and steps are now being taken to consummate the measure, which it is confidently anticipated will prove successful.

As remarked by the Aiken Committee :

“This will add much to the worth of real estate, and supply what has long been needed here—a centre to the peculiar interests of this part of the State. With this impulse and motive, the growth of the town cannot be checked, and the rapid development of the natural resources of the land, which lie in such abundance on every side, will be its legitimate result.

“With regard to facilities for communicating with the outer world, there are advantages here which will give this section additional value. The town of Aiken, lying as it does directly on the line of the South Carolina Railroad, a trip of a few hours conveys the produce of the year to Charleston, from whence it can be exported to Northern cities, or, on the other hand, to Augusta, from whence it can be distributed to the interior towns of the South. The Columbia and Hamburg Railroad, which will constitute one of the links of the ‘Great Seaboard Mail Line’ from New York to New Orleans, runs within five miles of the town.

"The Aiken and Ninety-Six Railroad has been surveyed and located, and eventually will be built to afford an outlet to the produce of the Great West that will pour over the Blue Ridge Railroad; the Port Royal Railroad, which joins the City of Augusta to the deep water of Port Royal—one of the finest harbors of the world—has also been fully surveyed, laid out and partially graded, and runs but a few miles south of the town. So that the place will be surrounded on all sides by the most ample facilities for transportation by rail, to say nothing of the abundant carrying means afforded to the lumber trade by the natural channels of the Edisto and Savannah rivers.

"The markets of all sections are thus laid open to our producers, and the demand for the produce will be steady and increasing. Communications with the teeming prairie lands of the Northwest, by means of a short and direct route to the Atlantic coast, will be such an advantage to them as to insure its early completion, and the great towns of Cincinnati, Memphis, and St. Louis, will transact their foreign business along a line of road on which our town is advantageously situated.

"The town of Aiken is pleasantly situated on the high ridge of land that separates the head-waters of the Edisto River from the streams that fall into the Savannah, and is remarkable for its elevation above tide water; being located at that happy means which combines most beneficially the advantages of a pine growing region with the bracing and invigorating air of a mountainous country. Free from the miasmatic influences which so frequently attend the moist climate of a lower section, it is equally devoid of the deleterious effects of the thin, cold atmosphere of a higher range; and the pure dry nature of its air, acting like a healthful tonic upon the exhausted lungs, and causing the blood to course with renewed and delightful vigor through the fevered veins, has often been productive to the invalid of the happiest results.

"Ascending gradually from the seaboard, along the line of the South Carolina Railroad, the country presents an apparently level surface to the eye of the traveller, and he is surprised to find himself at an elevation of six hundred feet when he reaches the plateau upon which Aiken is situated.

"The town itself is laid out in a neat and pleasant manner, with wide streets, shaded by large trees. It is built upon a different plan from that which has in general governed the growth of our inland towns; and the houses, instead of being gathered together around one common centre, are in detached groups and villas. The stores, however, are all arranged on the main street, which is at right angles to the Railroad Avenue, and are commodious and well supplied with wares. It may not be out of place to remark that the appearance of the town has attracted the admiration of the numerous officers and strangers who have passed through it, and it has always been contrasted most favorably with other portions of the State.

"Westward the country falls away rapidly towards the Savannah in a series of broken hills and undulating slopes, that furnish to the lover of the picturesque many scenes of the wonderful beauty of nature, while evidences lay strewn around him, thick 'as autumnal leaves in Vallambrosa,' that he is traversing one of those peculiar geological formations of the State which bears unmistakable evidence of marine productions and deposits.

"The aluminous formations that occur in immense beds of the finest porcelain clays, are here exposed by the denuding effects of water, and lie in rich strata upon the very surface, ready to the hand of the manufacturer. Between Aiken and

Graniteville the beds are in many cases sixty feet thick, while those on the Savannah River, near Hamburg, are from ten to fifteen, and are of unsurpassed purity. (See Tuomey's *Geology of South Carolina*, p. 141.)

"Eastward and Northward from Aiken the land declines gradually toward the sparsely wooded black-jack region of the surrounding districts, and presents no features of peculiar interest. A few miles to the south of the town, on Cedar Creek, lie, in considerable thickness, the very valuable beds of buhr stone which form so rich a part of the mineral wealth of this section.

"Its accessibility to travelers from all directions, and the well-known salubrity of its situation, has given to the place in all quarters of the United States and Canada that reputation to which it is so well entitled, and which must continue to increase as its merits as a resort for consumptive patients become more widely known. As a natural result from the influx of persons in quest of that greatest boon of nature, good health, the tone of society in the town is much superior to that usually found in country places of the same population, and the social standard is much elevated by continued additions from the better class of persons, who, finding the climate so admirably adapted to the wants of their physical nature, settle here and become permanent residents.

"Various denominations of religious belief find their appropriate places of worship here, and are well represented in the several Churches scattered throughout the town. Educational interests have always been well attended to. There are at present several excellent schools for the primary education of children, and an institution for boys preparing for college, which is ably conducted by competent teachers, in the commodious building erected by the corporation for the purpose."

"Among the resources of Aiken your committee would place most prominently the remarkable effects of its climate on pulmonary disorders, as already incidentally referred to; believing that a more favorable combination of the essential requisites for the successful treatment of consumption cannot be found, embracing opportunities for profitable employment and social and educational privileges for the various members of a family with the sanitary efforts of the climate on the invalid.

"A more extended publicity of the facts of such a conjunction of favorable circumstances would, undoubtedly, be the means of alleviating the sufferings and prolonging the lives of no inconsiderable number, who would gladly avail themselves of the knowledge when brought to their notice.

"A glance at the bills of mortality of the Northern States will show how general and wide-spread is this fell disease, under its various modifications of asthma, bronchitis, pneumonia, emphysema, tubercles, hemorrhage of the lungs, &c. Hereditary predisposition to consumption hangs like an incubus over the heads of many, paralyzing their energies, destroying their usefulness and embittering their lives. By it thousands are annually driven forth from their homes to seek relief in more congenial climes, as it is now conceded that the medicine capable of arresting its progress is, as yet, undiscovered.

"The preventive treatment consists in attention to the various functions; exercise in the open air; freedom from mental anxiety or physical exhaustion; a liberal and nutritious diet; a residence in a dry, light, and elastic atmosphere, which invigorates the lungs and air passages without irritating them; and some pleasant and agreeable employment, which will induce the patient to exert himself and prevent the mind from dwelling on the ailments of the body. At no place can these

indications be better carried out than in this vicinity, where the hygrometric condition of the atmosphere is such as to challenge comparison with any of the usual resorts of consumptives—even of the famed table-lands of Mexico, and excelling that of the Islands of Cuba or Madeira, or the cities of Italy. This peculiarity is attributed to the porous nature of the sandy soils, which readily permits the water to percolate through and discharge itself at a distance, and to its situation on the summit of a ridge at such an elevation as to rarify the atmosphere, and at the same time gives a most thorough system of drainage to the neighboring country. Being surrounded by immense pine forests, it has also the advantages incidental to pine regions.

“In regard to the beneficial effects of the climate, your Committee can speak from personal knowledge as well as from observation of its effects on others, as several of them have been induced to locate here on account of ill health, either of themselves or some member of their family, and most cheerfully do they bear testimony to the good result. Many eminent medical practitioners who are acquainted with this locality recommend their consumptive patients to try this climate.

“The reputation of Aiken is not based on a few isolated cases, but on the fact that hundreds of invalids, in various stages of their several complaints, have been benefited by a residence here. The piney woods roads, covered with the fallen straw, will tempt him to ride or drive. If a disciple of Walton, the trout, jack, bream and perch, with which the mill-ponds and creeks are stocked, will furnish sport; and if fond of gunning, many an hour can be whiled away shooting quails, partridges, squirrels, pigeons, &c.”

In the *Richmond Medical Journal* (July, 1866) may be found a well digested article on “The Climate and Topography of Aiken, S. C., in their relation to Phthisis, by E. S. Gaillard, M. D., Richmond, Va.” We take the following abstract:

\* \* \* \* \*

“Until comparatively recent years the influences and adaptation of climate and topography, in their relations to phthisis, have never received the adequate investigation of competent observers. Patients have been sent indifferently and indiscriminately to the dry, cold atmosphere of Spitzbergen, or to the warm, moist air of Bermuda and Jamaica; to the temperate climate of Madeira, Florida or the Mediterranean, or to the dry and warm atmosphere of Cairo and Sierra Leone.

“It is for the general welfare of this class of patients, in all sections, that the climate and topography of Aiken is now brought to the attention and consideration of the profession.

“The country immediately adjacent to Aiken is drained by Shaw’s Creek and Horso Creek, with several smaller streams emptying, some into the Savannah and some into the Edisto River. This drainage is most thorough and complete, as the village is built near the centre of an elevated plateau or table-land, possessing an area of about twenty square miles. The character of the soil is sandy, with a sub-soil of red clay, siliceous entering largely into its composition. The soil is exceedingly dry; water not being found at a less distance than from 80 to 125 feet below the surface. This water is of a superior character, being transparently clear, with a temperature varying from 62° to 65° Fahrenheit; it is generally impregnated with



the salts of iron and magnesia, but not sufficiently so to render it deleterious to the invalid.

"The annual rain fall, as tested by the rain gauge, is usually about thirty-seven inches; the heaviest uniform fall being in the months of June, July and August and the smallest fall in the autumn.

"The earliest frost usually occurs from the 10th to the 15th of November, and the latest from the 1st to the 10th of April, the average duration of the period without frosts being from 200 to 225 days, or two-thirds of the year. This fact is deserving of especial attention. The mean annual temperature is from 50° to 54° Fahrenheit; the mean temperature of the winter months being from 42° to 46° F.; that of the spring months 58° F., summer months 77° F., and autumn 62° F.

"Attention is directed to the very gradual and equable variations of these temperatures. The extremes of temperature for one year are as follows: January, 60°-40° F.; February, 76°-33° F.; March, 82°-24° F.; April, 73°-28° F.; May 86°-56° F.; June, 92°-66° F.; July, 86°-64° F.; August, 92°-69° F.; September, 90°-53° F.; October, 78°-40° F.; November, 73°-29° F.; December, 74°-31° F.

"The prevailing winds are from the south and south-west. The dew-point is invariably low. The hygrometrical condition is here characteristic. The ordinary long moss (*tilandsia*) of the Gulf States, as has been frequently tried by experiment, will not grow here; the cryptogamous plants are but feebly represented, and those only grow that are usually found flourishing in dry atmospheres. The atmosphere is decidedly terebinthinate. Endemics are unknown, and epidemics rare. The country is entirely free from malarial diseases. The climate and water together have produced very conspicuous results in the health of those suffering from gastric and intestinal complications."

Dr. Gaillard then proceeds quoting high authorities to show that the supplementary action of the skin is in an indirect ratio with the hygrometric condition of the atmosphere, and that the skin is physiologically the chief supplement in respiration, and vitally important in phthisis. He describes and compares the various climates which patients are advised to try, remarking that—

"It will be observed in this summary that no air is more frequently appropriate and beneficial than that of Aiken, S. C., resembling, as it does, that of Nice and St. Remo, which are regarded at the present time with more favor perhaps than any other sections of Europe. Aiken possesses also a virtue in the important fact that the consumptive residing there can with impunity exercise in the open air throughout the year. \* \* \* \* The distinguishing characteristics of the Aiken climate, then, are its peculiar dryness of the atmosphere, its freedom from sudden and violent atmospheric changes and absence from frosts for two-thirds of the year, its freedom from endemics and malarial diseases, and the general prevalence of soft southern and south-western breezes. These important and interesting facts in regard to this locality, in connection with its dry and porous soil, rendering exercise at all times practicable, its remarkable elevation, its facility of access and

removal from the crowded centres of population, with their irregular hours and inseparable excitements, *render Aiken especially adapted for the home of the consumptive.*"

The rich, virgin, alluvial lands of the West and South are proverbially unhealthy, whilst this section is noted for its exemption from malarial diseases.

Professor Tuomey, in his valuable work on the Geology of South Carolina (see page 259), speaking of the tertiary formation of this region, says: "The sandy hills in the upper part of the region occupied by this formation, are covered with pines, the sub-soil being sand, gravel, and clay. *There are few soils more grateful, or that yield a more ready recompense to industry; it continues to produce as long as there is an atom left that can sustain a plant.*

The following analysis of a soil from the land of (the late) J. D. Legare, Esq., at Aiken, by Professor Shepard, will show the character of the lands alluded to:

	Surface soil.	Sub-soil.
Water of absorption.....	5.500	8.000
Organic matter.....	8.500	.....
Silica.....	77.000	81.000
Protoxide of iron.....	4.005	.....
Alumina.....	5.000	5.500
Lime, with traces of magnesia and phosphoric acid..	.050	.....
Peroxide of lime.....	.....	3.500
Carbonate of lime.....	.....	.400
Traces of magnesia and loss.....	.....	1.600
	<hr/> 100.055	<hr/> 100.000

Such are the lands on the flats and in the valleys, where from six to fifteen inches beneath the surface is a sub-soil of what is generally termed red clay, but which has very little alumina. On an adjacent lot to the one of which the analysis was made, the product was 40 bushels of corn and 30 bushels of wheat to the acre, and, after cutting the wheat, a proportionate crop of peas. With a growing season of 200 days, it is apparent that two crops of many articles can be made each year; and in corroboration of Prof. Tuomey's statement in regard to their continued productiveness, instances are not unfrequent where fields are now tilled by a class of farmers who pay little or no attention to manuring, which were cleared over fifty years ago.

During the war a refugee from the coast, and one of the largest and most successful planters in the State, leased one of these farms, and, after three years' culture, asserted that under proper treatment they improved more rapidly and permanently, in proportion to the manure used, than did his lands on Edisto Island, which are considered very fertile.

However, the larger portion of the lands in the neighborhood are of a more sandy character, and are preferable for fruit culture. The cultivation of these light sandy lands requires but little labor, farmers making up in the area tended for the small yield, frequently planting as much as forty acres of corn to each horse, and seldom using the hoe. In the immediate vicinity of Aiken very little cotton was planted before the war; but this year a considerable area has been planted, and the crops compare most favorably with those of sections heretofore considered far superior. With such improved modes of culture and management as are in vogue in the Northern States, and a judicious selection of such varieties or specialties as are best adapted to such soils, most of these lands would prove highly remunerative. If, on some accounts, the prairie lands of the West, or the alluvial bottoms of the river vallies, are preferable, here are compensating influences that are counterbalancing.

Those who are seeking new *homes* would do well to consider the question in its various bearings. In deciding on a location, let them take into consideration the comparative salubrity of climate, accessibility to markets, tone of society, facilities for literary and religious instruction, the price of lands improved or unimproved, the relative number of *working days* in the year, the comparative rates of wages and opportunities for procuring workmen, the care and trouble incident to surrounding the *homestead* with vines and flowers and fruits, and the influence such things have on the character of children, the probability of the future prosperity of the country, and consequent advancement in the value of property, and other similar influences.

#### FRUIT CULTURE.\*

"It is only since 1850 that much attention was attracted in this vicinity to fruit culture. The immense returns realized by the proprietors of some of the orchards and vineyards, from lands unfit for the profitable culture of cotton, led their

\* From report of the Aiken Committee.

neighbors to inquire into the secret of their success. Since then orchards and vineyards have gradually but continuously increased in size and number.

"In 1858, those interested formed themselves into a society, and adopted the title of 'THE AIKEN VINE GROWING AND HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION,' their object being 'to promote the culture and improve the quality of fruit in general, and more particularly of the vine and the manufacture of wine.'

"This association has been instrumental in extending much valuable information; many of their reports and essays having been published in pamphlet form and republished in the agricultural journals and Patent Office Reports. In 1860, this society extended an invitation to the wine growers of the South to hold a Convention in this place, and to bring with them specimens of their grapes and wines for comparison and classification. Delegates from five States accordingly met on the 21st of August, and ex-Senator and Governor James H. Hammond was elected presiding officer of the Convention. Upon taking the chair, he remarked 'that the exhibition this day, and the presence of these delegates, indicated that an interest in behalf of growing our own grapes and manufacturing our own wine, was extending, and that a large belt of waste lands, capable of growing extensively these fruits, were now about to engage the attention that should have been called to them hitherto. *Nay, more, the exhibition this day, he ventured to say, COULD NOT BE SURPASSED IN ANY PART OF THE WORLD, and in using this broad expression, he did it WITHOUT QUALIFICATION, especially so in reference to the variety and quality of the grapes here to be seen.*

#### PEACHES.

"The facility of transportation afforded by our lines of railroads to the coast, and thence by steamships to the large Northern cities, enables us, by selecting the earliest varieties of peaches, to reach those markets from the 20th to the 25th of June, thus anticipating the New Jersey crops from four to six weeks. The first peaches command as high as \$15 to \$20 per bushel, and an average of, at least, \$5 may be reasonably expected, as the Aiken fruit has an established reputation, excelled by no other section, being healthy, well flavored and highly colored.

"One of our peach growers, since the close of the war, sent to his factor in New York for various family supplies, stating that he was without money and would have to depend on the next peach crop. Much to his gratification, the articles were immediately forwarded, with an intimation that no better security was requisite than a promise of a consignment of an article so prized in New York as were the *Aiken peaches*.

"Mr. James Purvis states that he has sixty acres in peaches, which requires three hands to cultivate, and that he has made five crops in six years, realizing from \$5,000 to \$10,000 each.

"Several of our orchardists have realized more than \$500 per acre in favorable years, which far exceeds any other crop requiring as little work.

"The trees are usually planted about sixteen feet apart, or from one hundred and fifty to two hundred trees per acre, and commence bearing the third year and producing from a peck to two bushels. They are remarkably healthy, the disease known as 'the yellows' not having made its appearance, and the fruit is more free of the curculio than in the richer lands of the low country. By a proper selection of varieties, a supply of this rich and luscious fruit may be had continuously from June to November.

## APPLES.

"The impression that good apples could not be produced at the South has generally prevailed; but gradually this error is being dispelled. In the culture of the apple, as of the peach, Southern raised trees must be depended on, and several of these varieties will challenge comparison with any others, either as regards flavor, size or keeping qualities.

## FIGS AND OTHER FRUIT.

"Figs are one of those great boons of nature that contribute to the enjoyments of life in a Southern climate. Luscious, nutritious and wholesome, they are frequently recommended by physicians as a food for invalids, and as a laxative where strong medicines are to be avoided. They grow freely in the open air, require little or no attention, and produce two or three crops annually.

"To sit under one's own vine and fig tree, so expressive of happiness and contentment, can be literally realized here.

"Pomegranates (deciduous bloomers, displaying ripe fruit and expanding blossoms at the same time), cherries, nectarines, quinces, apricots, raspberries, &c., are cultivated to a limited extent, and excellent strawberries are to be had for four or five months during each year in great profusion."

One hundred and seventy strawberries have been gathered from a single plant in one season; many of them from four to four and a half inches in circumference.

The custom of putting strawberries in small baskets for shipping has never obtained here. The few that are sent off are packed in wooden boxes or large hand-baskets. The Committee add:

"As attention to horticulture extends, in all probability the naturalization and acclimation of other valuable fruits, such as the date, tamarind, olive, jujube, various nuts and berries, &c., will afford a wider field for enterprise.

## GRAPES AND WINE.

"One of our oldest and most successful vintners, writing on this subject, in 1855, says: 'Let me assure you that vine culture is the easiest thing in the world. Any of your sons or field negroes will "take to it" in one season. The pruning can be learned in ten minutes; the work is simply hoeing, light plowing and tying of branches. The making of wine requires some attention. (Can you make good bacon without care and attention?) All this can and will be explained to your satisfaction. An acre should yield, at the very least, 300 gallons, worth here \$2 per gallon. One hand can attend five acres. Here you have \$1,500 the hand even if the wine only brought \$1. You may say this is all "paper calculation." It certainly is, but experience proves that many have realized more than that amount. It has been made and can be made. Have the energy to try it. \* \* \* \* If compared with other crops, such as cotton, corn, wheat, &c., we find the chances of success two to one with the grapes, and it should not be forgotten that they are usually planted in the poorest hill sides, adapted to nothing else, and on which the proprietor can live and enjoy health, whilst other crops require richer lands, always more or less sickly. On sandy pine lands, such as would bring five or eight bushels of corn, the yield of wine, in an average season, will be about 300 gallons. On

richer clay lands it is said to reach 1,000 and over. These are not surmises, but positive facts.'

"Around Aiken nearly 500 acres are now planted in grapes. The vines are healthy and vigorous; the peculiar dryness of the atmosphere, the rolling surface and the light porous nature of the soil, which quickly discharges all superfluous moisture, makes it specially adapted to the grape culture. The quality of the fruit surpasses that of other sections, both in high flavor and percentage of saccharine matter. The grapes begin to ripen about the middle of July, and are ready for the press some time in August.

"The vines are generally planted in rows ten feet apart and about six feet in the row, making about 750 plants to the acre. This distance is preferred, from the more vigorous growth of the vine here. An idea of the profits may be conceived by allowing only twenty bunches of grapes to be produced on each vine, making 15,000 bunches to the acre, which, if worth only two cents per bunch, would amount to \$300, or, at five cents per bunch, \$750.

"They are rarely injured by the late frosts. A vineyard once properly started is an inheritance for one's children, as the grape-vine is noted for its longevity, frequently living more than one hundred years.

"Mr. Axt, of Georgia, offered to guarantee TWENTY-FIVE HUNDRED GALLONS of wine per acre to those employing him to superintend and plant their vineyards. And Prof. Hume, in an address delivered to the A. V. G. Association, in 1860, stated that he was commissioned by New York Houses to purchase all the Aiken wines he could get at \$2 per gallon, as dealers in wines found these best for making their 'bases.'

"What has been accomplished indicates that Aiken, at no distant period, will be the centre of a large vine-growing region. In those properties requisite for wine the grapes grown here compare favorably with those from which the most celebrated wines of France and Germany are produced.

"It is estimated that wine can be produced at a cost of 20 cents a gallon, and the demand even at \$2 is fully equal to the supply. It is an article that will always be in demand; costs but little to transport to market; no annual expense of seed, as in cereals; does not require as much manure, or deteriorate the soil as other crops; is a light and pleasant employment, not as laborious as common field work; improves in quality by keeping, and its general use would promote the cause of temperance, it being a noted fact that very little drunkenness is seen in vine-growing countries.

"In addition to brandy made from the cultivated fruits, the various wild fruits and berries that grow in such abundance, furnish materials that find a ready sale at the distilleries. At home we have the haw brandy, cherry brandy, plum brandy, persimmon brandy, peach brandy, blackberry brandy, potato brandy, gooseberry brandy, sorghum rum, &c., but when shipped it assumes other names and forms."

## ROOTS AND VEGETABLES.

## ROOTS AND VEGETABLES.

TABLEAU CALENDAR FOR THE GARDEN,  
 Suitable for the latitude of Aiken and vicinity, showing the seasons for Planting and the seasons for using certain Vegetables, so as  
 to have a constant daily supply through the year.

VEGETABLES.	WHEN TO BE PLANTED.	WHEN FIT FOR USE.	REMARKS.
Asparagus.	Once planted, perennial.	March to May.	Injures the bed to cut after May.
Artichoke, globe.	do.	April, May, June.	Snuckers, set out in autumn.
Artichoke, ground.	Any time in winter.	October to March.	Good for the table and for pickling.
Beans, snap.	March to August.	May to October.	Plant at intervals for a succession.
Beans, Seowe or Lima.	March to May.	Midsummer to frost.	They may be put up for winter use.
Beets.	February, March, April.	May to September.	May be planted in July for winter.
Cauliflower.	March, April, May.	June to September.	
Cabbage, green glazed.	April, May.	November to March.	The seed must be pure to head.
“ sun. variety’s.	Autumn or spring.	May and in midsummer.	{ Seeds sown in autumn must be protected during winter.
Carrots.	April, May, June.	August to March.	
Cucumbers.	February, March, April.	Midsummer to next March.	
Guinea squash.	March, April, May.	May to September.	
Kohl-Rabi.	Spring and summer.	July to frost.	
Leeks.	{ Sow seeds in Feb., set } { out in June, July. }	Midsummer to next winter.	
Lettuce.	Jan., Feb., Mar., April.	November to April.	
Mustard.	July to November.	March, April, May, June.	To be earthed up as they grow.
Melons.	March to June.	Following winter.	{ Cabbage lettuce is the best variety. Make the ground extremely rich.
Onions.	{ Sow seeds in March or } { plant young onions } { in Nov., Jan., Feb. }	July to September.	To be used as greens.
Peas.	March to June.	August, Sept., Oct.	
Potatoes, Irish.	December to March.	June, July.	{ Plants from seeds will keep through winter ; those from sets will not keep.
Peppers.	February to April.	July to frost.	Plant second crop in June for succession.
Parsnips.	March, April.	June to October.	Plant for a succession of crops.
Radish.	March to August.	Summer and fall.	Foodrich’s seedlings the best.
Ruta Baga.	July, August.	Following winter.	Used green or ripe.
Squash.	Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec.	April and thro’ summer.	Plant frequently for a succession.
Squash, early.	February to April.	Following winter.	May be planted in April for summer crop.
“ Potato or Coosaw.	April, May, June.	November to April.	Soil must be extremely rich.
Salsify.	March, April.	May to August.	Keep well through the winter
Turnips, Spring.	February, March, April.	Midsummer to frost.	
“ Winter.	July, August.	Following winter.	
Tomatoes.	February to July.	May to July.	Plant second crop not later than July.

The kitchen garden and root crops generally yield a most generous return for the labor expended, where the ground is properly prepared.

Artichokes, asparagus, beans, beets, cabbages, cauliflowers, carrots, celery, cucumbers, egg-plants, kohl-rabi, lettuce, melons,

mushrooms, mustard, okra, onions, parsley, peas, peppers, potatoes, pumpkins, radishes, rhubarb, squashes, tomatoes, and turnips are cultivated with success. For example, 400 bushels of sweet potatoes have been raised to the acre, some of them weighing five or six pounds apiece.

This year (1867) a farmer planted eight rows (about eighty feet long each) with seven-eighths of a bushel of Irish potatoes in February. On the 24th of April he commenced digging, and had a supply for his family (nine persons) every day until the middle of August, when the remainder were dug, and measured fifteen bushels, being at the rate of over 400 bushels per acre. The only labor was in preparing the ground, planting and mulching, as they were not hoed or plowed at all.

An average stalk was pulled in May, to which 17 potatoes clung, weighing five pounds, besides a large number of small ones.

In the same garden 700 cabbages were planted, three feet apart each way. When in full leaf, over 500 of them were touching. Some of the Early Yorks were 42 inches across—and *every one headed*.

In another garden the vines of green peas grew over nine feet in height, and crowded with pods.

Turnips, beets and onions are raised in the greatest perfection.

These instances indicate what can be done, with proper application of labor.

The moderate temperature during the winter months, the ground never freezing to the depth of more than three or four inches, enables an early preparation for planting. The rough turnip is left in the ground, and *keeps* all winter. The spring is from four to six weeks earlier than in New Jersey; which would enable the enterprising farmer to ship many articles for the Northern markets, and thus obtain the best prices, as is now done with peaches. The length of the growing season should also be borne in mind.

Rev. J. H. Cornish, of Aiken, says that some years ago he sent from his garden to the South Carolina Institute exhibition, turnip-rooted beets, twenty-seven inches in circumference, and white Silesia and blood beets, three feet long and twenty-two inches around; that he generally has beets and carrots as fine



as he has ever seen anywhere, some of the carrots weighing seventeen pounds; that he usually leaves his salsify, beets, carrots, turnips, and Irish potatoes in the garden during the winter, gathering them as required for use.

## MANUFACTURES.

Most especially would we call attention to the combination of advantages, which, if duly appreciated, would render our new district one of the most prosperous manufacturing divisions of the South. The genius of the Southern people has never been, to any considerable extent, directed to inventions, improvements of processes or manufacturing. Proud of their great agricultural interests, under the plantation system, manufactures were discouraged instead of encouraged by the leading men.

Other localities have one or more of the essentials we claim for this region, but they are wanting in some of the requisites. Already the manufacturing interests of this vicinity are the most important in the State. This fact, of itself, is significant. The capital invested and the individuals engaged in those enterprises are from abroad, indicating that this location was selected by parties who had no particular interest in developing the resources of this quarter, but whose object it was to select such a locality as would combine the elements of success. The mountainous regions of South Carolina and Georgia offer locations with equal water-power and exemption from malarial diseases, but they are far removed from the coast and sea-ports, and not on the great lines of intercommunication. As far as known, the kaolin and bulir-stone are not surpassed in quality, if equalled, on the Continent. The facilities for transportation enables the manufacturer to put his wares in such markets as will pay the highest prices, and as such a large proportion of manufactured goods are brought from abroad to supply the South, a home market is afforded from which distant competitors are excluded by the extra expense of transportation, commissions, insurance, &c. The reduced circumstances of the people offer a large class who would most willingly embrace the opportunity of being employed as operators, and the climate and temperature would afford many enjoyments denied to the denizens of more Northern latitudes.

The Savannah River is navigable for steamboats to Augusta and Shaw's Creek, and the Edisto for rafts. The only line of railroads in operation south of Virginia, which connect the Valley of the Mississippi with the Atlantic coast, is that crossing the Blue Ridge near Chattanooga, and with which the S. C. Railroad, on which Aiken is located, is connected. The Augusta and Columbia Road is being constructed, and efforts will soon be made to complete the road from Augusta to Port Royal. At the last session of the Legislature the charter of the Aiken and Ninety-six Road was renewed, connecting with the Blue Ridge Road, thus affording direct connection with Louisville and Cincinnati. The Committee further say :

"The situation of the ridge on which we live, at an elevation of four hundred feet above the city of Augusta, from which it is only sixteen miles distant, and of three hundred feet above Graniteville, five miles off, will give some idea not only of the rapid and thorough drainage which it enjoys, but of the immense power which might be used for manufacturing purposes afforded by the numerous streams and creeks flowing from these highlands.

"Already some forty or fifty saw-mills have been erected and engaged in sawing pine lumber, some of which is consumed here, and the remainder floated down the river to the coast, where it commands the highest prices, as the soft yellow pine lumber of this region is well known to dealers. As yet all other species of timber are utterly ignored, although various kinds abound, that are elsewhere deemed most valuable.

"The success that has attended the manufacturing establishments located on Horse Creek demonstrates the practicability and advantages of such enterprises. That of Vaclaue (seven miles from Aiken), founded in 1832, was the pioneer. It is built of granite found on the spot, and employs probably some 300 persons in making yarns, osnaburgs, and drills.

"The cotton factory and village of Graniteville are objects of more than ordinary interest. The general appearance of the town, the neat and symmetrical style in which the houses of the operatives are built, the beautiful garden and fountains attached to the factory for their enjoyment; the attention paid to hygienic matters, police, and education; the condition of the roads, streets and canal, shaded by large trees; the picturesque cemetery; the forethought and the judgment that have evidently been exercised to produce such a complete effect—all attract attention; and it is generally admitted to be a model manufacturing village, unsurpassed in the United States, and the heavy dividends and the scarcity of the stock on the market show how profitable it has been.

"At Bath, some nine miles distant, is an extensive paper mill, which is kept busily employed in making various qualities of paper. As an illustration, the following anecdote may be pertinent: A Society in Augusta, needing a quantity of paper, recently sent to New York, in order to get a *superior* article. When it arrived they found it had been manufactured within six miles of home, at the Bath Mills, sent to New York, and then returned.

"At Kaolin, twelve miles off, is a porcelain factory, and at Kalmia Mills a company has been actively engaged in the erection of a very large establishment for making cotton goods, calculated to afford employment to one thousand hands, and which is expected soon to be in operation. A charter has also recently been granted to the Rose Mill Manufacturing Company, to be located on the headwaters of Tinker's Creek, eight miles south-east of Aiken.

"As yet these water-powers have not received the attention they merit. The streams are never-failing, and capable of driving the machinery for hundreds of mills, and, unlike many in more Northern latitudes, are not affected by the ill effects of the extreme cold.

"In this town there is a fair opening for either of the following trades, especially to such as have sufficient capital to supply themselves with the requisite materials: Cabinetmaker, saddler, tinner, watchmaker, jeweler, wheelwright, whitesmith, millwright, carpenter, blacksmith, &c.

"Various kinds of willow grow wild on the banks of our streams, and the osier can be easily propagated in most soils from cuttings. The making of baskets, either plain or ornamental, would prove a most remunerative employment, as the demand for them is extensive, and it is an occupation easily learned, requiring but few and simple tools. So simple is it in its operations, that in many institutes for the blind it is selected as best adapted for their occupation.

"The streams in the neighborhood afford excellent locations for the establishment of workshops for making articles of every-day use and necessity, which now have to be brought from a distance, although the materials of which they are composed abound here—such as articles for house building, comprising doors, sashes, mouldings, balusters, &c., coopers' ware, brooms, baskets, agricultural tools, household utensils, wagons, carts, mats, pottery, tiles, bricks, &c. Lands, lumber, and living being cheap, and as these and similar articles are in constant demand, either at home or in the neighboring cities with which Aiken is connected by railroads, it is evident that such occupations would pay. Arrangements for water privileges could be made on most favorable terms, even by those who may not have sufficient capital to purchase the lands; and the requisite tools and machinery for some of these branches being very simple, commencements might be made in a small way, to be afterwards enlarged.

"The principal growth of our forests is the stately and useful yellow pine, which affords the excellent lumber, rosin, and turpentine of commerce, liberally intermixed with the more sturdy oak, hickory, and walnut. Cypress, cedar, poplar, with many other woods useful for ornamental or substantial purposes, are also to be found around us in abundance, and provide the most ample supply of material for the various mechanical trades. Nor, while nature has thus lavished upon our land a rich store of valuable productions, has she been at all delinquent in bestowing upon it the wild and beautiful adornments with which she is wont to deck her favorites.

"West of and adjacent to Aiken is a ragged, broken body of land, containing probably forty or fifty square miles, which, to the unobservant traveller, presents a most bleak and dreary aspect; but the various stratas cropping out naturally, or exposed by the effects of heavy rains washing away the hill sides, and by the railroad excavations, afford a vast field, interesting alike to the scientific geologist or the practical manufacturer.

"Immense beds of different kinds of clay, from the purest and whitest kaolin to

the dark-colored mud of which bricks are made, sands of all hues, some as fine as flour, others large coarse crystals; silicious earths of many kinds; ferruginous sandstones, the conglomerate shell, buhr-stones, granite, mica, feldspar, ochres of different colors, are all found in this vicinity. But a short distance off, a deposit of manganese is found, and potash can be readily made in the surrounding forests. Experts have pronounced the sands to be admirably adapted for making glass and crystal, and the quality of the kaolin is admitted to be equal, if not superior, to that of which the celebrated Staffordshire ware is made. It is doubtful if the combination of the ingredients of glass and earthenware can be found in such immediate proximity anywhere else."

The publication of the Report of the Aiken Committee attracted considerable attention to these deposits, but the unsettled state of political affairs has thus far militated seriously against extensive operations. A knowledge of the various uses to which this impalpable white powder is applied would astonish many persons who consider themselves well informed. For the purpose of adulterating paints, candies, flour, &c., the demand is yearly increasing; and we understand the Aiken clays are not only driving the English clays out of the New York market, but being shipped to the Potteries in New Jersey and Vermont. On a recent visit to the Kaolin Works we were informed that the company intended erecting additional furnaces, so as to supply the demand for the ware. On inquiring of the foreman (an Englishman) his opinion as to the quality of the fire-bricks, he replied: "Examine the condition of the bottoms of those furnaces; they have been in use, under the intense heat we apply, for the past eighteen months, and they are in good order now. Our English brick could not have stood such a test." Prof. Shepard, well known as one of the best analytical chemists in the State, after an examination of these clays, writes that "this region affords the best kaolin for porcelain known in America."

KAOLIN IN EUROPE AND AMERICA.

ANALYSIS.	From Passau.	From Yrieux.	From Dartmoor, Devonshire	From Kaolin Works, near Aiken.
Silica .....	45.06	46.80	47.20	44.46
Alumina .....	32.00	37.30	38.80	39.82
Lime.....	0.74	....	.24	1.86
Oxide of iron .....	.90	....	....	.60
Potass .....	....	2.50	....	.94
Water .....	18.00	13.00	12.00	12.10
Alkali and loss.....	....	....	1.76	....
	96.70	99.60	100.00	99.78

The buhr mill-stone, which abounds in this region, affords an exemplification of the neglect of resources which, in other places, would be highly prized. These stones have been tested in several of the mills of the vicinity, and are known to compare favorably with those brought from abroad; yet so little value is attached to them, that parties desiring a new pair of mill-stones can obtain permission to cut them without paying anything for the privilege.

Tuomey, in his *Geology of the State* (page 290), says: "The beds of silicified shells of Barnwell will furnish an excellent material for this purpose. Pieces may be found that *agree exactly with the French buhr-stones*; but those who have attempted to procure mill-stones at this locality have committed a great mistake in trying to get them in one piece. Every one knows that French buhr mill-stones are made up from sixteen to twenty pieces, cemented and bound together with iron hoops." And on page 143, "This is the most extensive deposit of buhr mill-stone in the State: solid stones, ten feet in diameter, can be procured; the beds, taken together, exceeding thirty feet in thickness."

Ure, in his *Dictionary*, vol. 11, page 165, speaking of the buhr-stones, says, "That it constitutes *a very rare geological formation*, being found in abundance ONLY in the mineral basin of Paris and a few adjoining districts, from whence it is exported chiefly to England and America. Stones six and a half feet in diameter fetch 1,200 francs apiece, or £48."

Here, also, is found a quality of stone similar to that which is imported into the Southern States from Scotland, at a heavy expense, for the purpose of hulling rice in the rice mills.

The peculiar geological formation of this region furnishes ample grounds for the opinion that other rare and valuable minerals will ultimately be found here and used. Frequent reference is made by Prof. Tuomey, in his most valuable and reliable work, to this section of the State. The field has not been exhaustively explored, nor has the value of material used in the arts been sufficiently appreciated, to give that value to the lands which they richly deserve.

Few if any places afford a finer opening for one or more hotels or boarding houses than the town of Aiken. At the

fashionable springs and sea-side watering places expensive hotels are erected and prove profitable, although "the season" is but for a few short weeks, whilst here the season would continue for ten months out of the twelve.

In 1854, Mr. Schwartz, who then kept the Aiken Hotel, was compelled to refuse the applications for board of over 400 persons, and last year many were deterred from coming, fearful that suitable accommodation could not be obtained. It is evident that if the proper means were adopted to extend information respecting the remarkable effects of this climate on pulmonary diseases, with assurances that visitors would be properly accommodated, that the hotel business might be made equal to that of any of the watering places. One great drawback has heretofore been that sufficient efforts have not been made to afford recreation and amusement to visitors. Like all country towns, strangers without occupation find it dull and lonesome, not knowing what to do with themselves or how to "kill time." The exercise of proper energy, ingenuity and "*savoir faire*" by a party who could command the requisite capital would soon obviate such a difficulty and return a dividend that would exceed that of most enterprises. By providing the *material* for such games as would induce the invalids to exercise, a double purpose would be subserved, for not only would it serve to make the time pass more agreeably, but it would conduce to the improvement of their health, and thus render this place a still more popular resort.

Large private boarding-houses, offering a more simple style of living than a regular hotel, and food prepared in a way Northerners are accustomed to, at a moderate price, are also much needed.

We have said "The Season" extended over ten months. In the fall, October, and November, the invalids are forced to retreat before the rigors of a northern winter, and they remain south until April or May. Before the war the residents of the sea coast resorted to Aiken in May and June, and could not return to their homes until after frost, which usually occurs in November, and it is reasonable to suppose that such will be the case again.

Doubts as to the validity of titles has been urged as an objec-

tion to purchasing southern lands. In this section very little property changed hands during the war—therefore good and valid title can be made.

Unimproved lands can be bought as low as \$1.  $\frac{5}{10}$ % per acre, though generally the price asked is from \$2 to \$10. Improved lands can be had from \$2 to \$30 per acre, depending on locality, style of improvements, and the pecuniary circumstances of the owners. As remarked by the Aiken Committee :

“The changed circumstances of the property-holders now necessarily throws on the market estates of all kinds. Some are obliged to sell a portion in order to obtain means of cultivating the remainder; others prefer moving to some distant country rather than exert themselves among their former associates or dependants. Consequently, lands are freely offered for sale at prices ranging from one to fifty dollars an acre. In this locality the general price is from two to ten dollars—averaging, perhaps, three dollars per acre.

“According to the Comptroller's Report, 1860, the general taxes for the State Government amounted to \$591,799, and the local or police taxes to \$72,897. The population of the State being 703,000, the taxes did not amount to \$1 per head.

“The total indebtedness of the State at that time was \$6,798,455, including \$1,000,000 received from the National Government, which will not probably be called for; besides holding railroad and other stocks which cost \$2,651,600, and having a million and a half to the credit of the sinking fund.

“As the small debt incurred during the war will have to be repudiated before the State will be allowed representation, it will be seen that the financial condition will be better than in those States which are loaded with heavy debts, contracted for internal improvements, and raising and assisting soldiers during the war, as is generally the case in the North and West. Taxation has always been comparatively light in this State. This year the assessment is fifteen cents on the hundred dollars, or 15-100 of one per cent. on real property.

“The usual appropriations for schools are temporarily suspended, but will probably soon be resumed. In 1860 they amounted to \$73,000 for free schools, and \$51,000 for other educational institutions.”

Since the report was published, South Carolina was forced to repudiate her war debt. The town of Aiken, nor either of the adjacent districts, have debts to pay. If poor, they are unincumbered.

It will be observed that we base our opinion as to the future prospects of Aiken and the value of lands in the vicinity on the following grounds :

1st. The establishment of the New District, with a Court-house at Aiken, will give a centre to the peculiar interests of this section and an impetus to the development of the natural resources.

2d. The remarkable salubrity of the climate, and its sanitary effects will, now that slavery is abolished, not only attract an increased number of invalid visitors from the North, but also induce men of means to locate here permanently.

3d. That the water power facilities for transportation of valuable raw materials, salubrity of climate, and the general combination of advantages for manufacturing purposes will be appreciated, and factories, work-shops, and handieraft trades will be located here.

4th. That the recent revolution involves a change in the system of agriculture, which will enhance the value and desirableness of the lands of this vicinity, so capable of producing earlier and better fruits and vegetables than the North.

5th. The completion of the various railroads referred to will give additional value to property.

6th. The belief that on the settlement of the political difficulties, immigration from Europe, as well as the North, will flow southward, and a proportion will settle in this vicinity.

Since the reorganization of the State Government, a Bill has been brought before the Legislature for the purpose of creating into a new District the section of country lying adjacent to the town, of which section Aiken is the proposed county-seat and centre.

The interest of the place and its growing value in the eyes of settlers demand this change in the division of the State, and the Bill, having already the sanction of the Committee of the legislative body to whom it was referred, waits only the action of time to become a law of the State.

From various causes a large proportion of real estate is now offered for sale, and can consequently be bought low. Southerners, generally, are despondent, yet working manfully to retrieve their fallen fortunes. To such as have faith in the future, this state of affairs offers a most favorable opportunity for profitable and desirable investments. Residences within the incorporate limits of Aiken, or improved farms in the neighborhood, beds of kaolin, or fine water-powers, can be had at low figures. What is more needed than anything else is capital. As much as five per cent. a month, on good securities, has been paid for the use of money. The want of means militates most seriously



against the efforts at recuperation. This but renders the opportunity more favorable for those who have the means at their command.

We quote further from the interesting pamphlet of Gen. Wagener, S. C. Commissioner of Immigration, entitled "South Carolina a home for the industrious immigrant."

"The careful emigrant, in seeking a new home for himself and his children and descendants, naturally enquires into its climate, temperature, adaptation to the culture of the great staples of food and commerce, and especially of its healthfulness or salubrity. What to him are luxurious fields, if ailments prevent him from working them? What to him are soft breezes, if they waft to him pestilence and death? It is well known that some of the fairest portions of the Western States are so fruitful of causes of disease, as almost to prevent settlement. Multitudes have left their European homes to find untimely graves in the vaunted rich soils of Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Wisconsin and other Western States and Territories. This last winter, we met a German farmer from Indiana, who looked for a home in South Carolina, and he informed us that he had been residing in the West ten years, and had never been a month without having occasion to call in a physician.

"Such a climate must necessarily be very beneficial to agriculture, and we, therefore, not only have a continued and uninterrupted succession of crops, but the produce of almost every section and clime of the earth will here thrive. It is neither so hot nor so cold, in our fortunate regions, as it is in the North and West; and we can, therefore, grow the cotton, rice, tobacco, even the tea of the southern plantation, with the wheat, rye, oats, barley and ever other product of the most northerly farm. Whilst in the North and West the ground is for months covered with deep snows, and rain and sleet are followed by intense frosts—killing, very often, the seed in the ground—in this State there is hardly a need to house the live stock, excepting, perhaps, for a few inclement days, to give them a night shelter. In October and November, our grain seeds are put into the ground; in March and April, corn and cotton are planted; in May and June, our grain harvest is gathered: and in September, our cotton-picking commences and the corn is ripe. There is here a happy distribution of the seasons, and not one day in the year the farmer is prevented from some useful employment legitimately consequent upon his calling. How very different in the cold North and West, where winter covers the earth with an icy mantle for months, and compels man and beast to remain in shelter, and to rely only on the stores which summer and autumn have permitted them to gather! The cost alone of a supply of fuel is an item of great consideration. It has been asserted that the North and West will produce a richer harvest of cereals and grains per acre, than the South. Even if that were so, the reason would be very simple and easily found. Southern cultivation of the food plants has heretofore been very careless, on account of the very rich returns of their more valuable staples. Indeed, slave labor has been a careless and slovenly labor in every respect. But where the same attention has been paid to the cultivation of the cereals and grains as at the North and West, the result has been not only equal, but very often much superior. Over 100 bushels of corn from an acre have frequently been made in South Carolina,

and 60 bushels of wheat; and there is an instance recorded when, with special care and a combination of favorable circumstances, somewhat over 300 bushels of corn have been gathered from an acre of corn in this State. The average harvest, however, under our present system of cultivation, according to official reports, is about 25 bushels of corn per acre, 15 bushels of wheat, 20 bushels of oats, 15 bushels of rye, 40 bushels of barley, 100 bushels of Irish potatoes, 150 to 400 bushels of sweet potatoes, 40 bushels of rice, cotton about 600 pounds, etc. To qualify the above somewhat to the better comprehension of the intelligent farmer, we will quote from the United States Patent Office Report (Agricultural) for 1850-'51, p. 231, from a planter in South Carolina. He reports as follows:

'We do not usually plough for wheat, but our system is to scratch it in hurriedly with a grub or gopher-plough after corn, without manure—not as a crop, but to get what we can—and well may we be thankful that we get any in return: it is truly a God-send.'

"If the average grain crop of the North and West was more, there would, therefore, be a good reason for it: but it really is not. And besides that, the facility of the market in South Carolina, and the much more remunerative prices, would make the result more advantageous under all circumstances. Add, now, the great staples, with their immense profits: cotton may be grown nearly up to the very mountain limits of the State; rice and tobacco may be grown in every section. Where can a home be found to equal ours, if we have industry, perseverance, frugality and patience like others?

"The immense superiority of South Carolina over almost every other State in the Union as an agricultural country, consists in this, that whilst she can grow the great staples of cotton, rice, tobacco and sugar with profit—especially the unequalled long staple Sea Islands cotton, and the valuable long grained rice of the Santee and Pee Dee—her climate and soil are equally adapted to produce every grain and fruit of the northernmost clime, and her water power is so available and universally distributed, that mills and factories may be established every few miles without difficulty, to work up her produce on the spot, and monopolize every resource for her economical prosperity.

"The usual productions of this State are cotton, the long and short staple, rice, both swamp and upland, tobacco, indigo, sugar, wheat, rye, corn, oats, millets, barley, buckwheat, peas, beans, sorghum, broom corn, sunflower, guinea corn, sweet potatoes and Irish potatoes. Hemp, flax and hops grow luxuriantly. Of fruits, our orchards will show apples, pears, quinces, plums, peaches, apricots, nectarines, cherries, oranges, lemons, olives, figs, pomegranates and the American date, the persimmons of many kinds. Of berries, we have the mulberry, raspberry, strawberry, blackberry, huckleberry, sparkleberry and elderberry. Of nuts, we have the walnut, pecan nut, chestnut, hickory, hazel nut and chinquepin. The grape grows luxuriantly in every portion of the State. In our woods and swamps enormous vines are found extending to the topmost branches of the tallest forest trees. Around Aiken, about 500 acres are now planted in grapes, and the quantity increases annually. The vines are healthy and vigorous. A Mr. Axt, an energetic German of Georgia, recently offered to guarantee twenty-five hundred gallons of wine per acre to those employing him to superintend and plant their vineyards! At two dollars a gallon, the usual price, what an enormous profit! The silkworm thrives well with us, and the *morus multicaulis* flourishes without any more care or

attention than any of our forest trees, and the growth is so rapid that the leaves can be used the second year after planting. The tea plant is successfully cultivated. Of garden products, we have turnips, carrots, parsnips, artichokes, mustard, bené, rhubarb, arrow-root, watermelons, muskmelons, cucumbers, cabbages, kale, salads, peppers, squashes, tomatoes, pumpkins, onions, leeks, okra, cauliflower, beans, peas, radishes, celery, etc., etc.—in short, almost whatever can be raised in any garden in the world. Of flowers, we have in our gardens whatever the earth will yield in beauty and fragrance. The rose is a hedge-plant, the japonica blossoms in the open air throughout the winter, the jasmine perfumes our thickets, and the violet borders our roads.

"*Horses* and *Mules* are raised without any greater trouble than anywhere else. They are stall-fed when they are working, whilst they are mostly allowed to roam the forest and provide their own support when they are young.

"*Cattle* are very rarely provided with food or provender, excepting the milch cows to induce them to come home of evening for milking. Nutricious grasses fatten them rapidly in the summer, whilst in the winter they grow poor from the scantiness of the herbage. They are no expense whatever; but of greater advantage would it undoubtedly be to house and keep them properly, as in the colder sections of the Union, for their manure and steadier increase would surely pay the farmer handsomely for his trouble.

"*Sheep* do well, and are as little expense to the farmer as his other stock, being rarely attended to, excepting to learn them to know their home. They are sheared twice in the year. What has been said of cattle applies to them with equal force.

"*Swine* are very thriving and prolific, on account of the superabundance of food, which our fields, swamps, and forests furnish them. They are suffered to roam at large, simply bearing the mark of the owner.

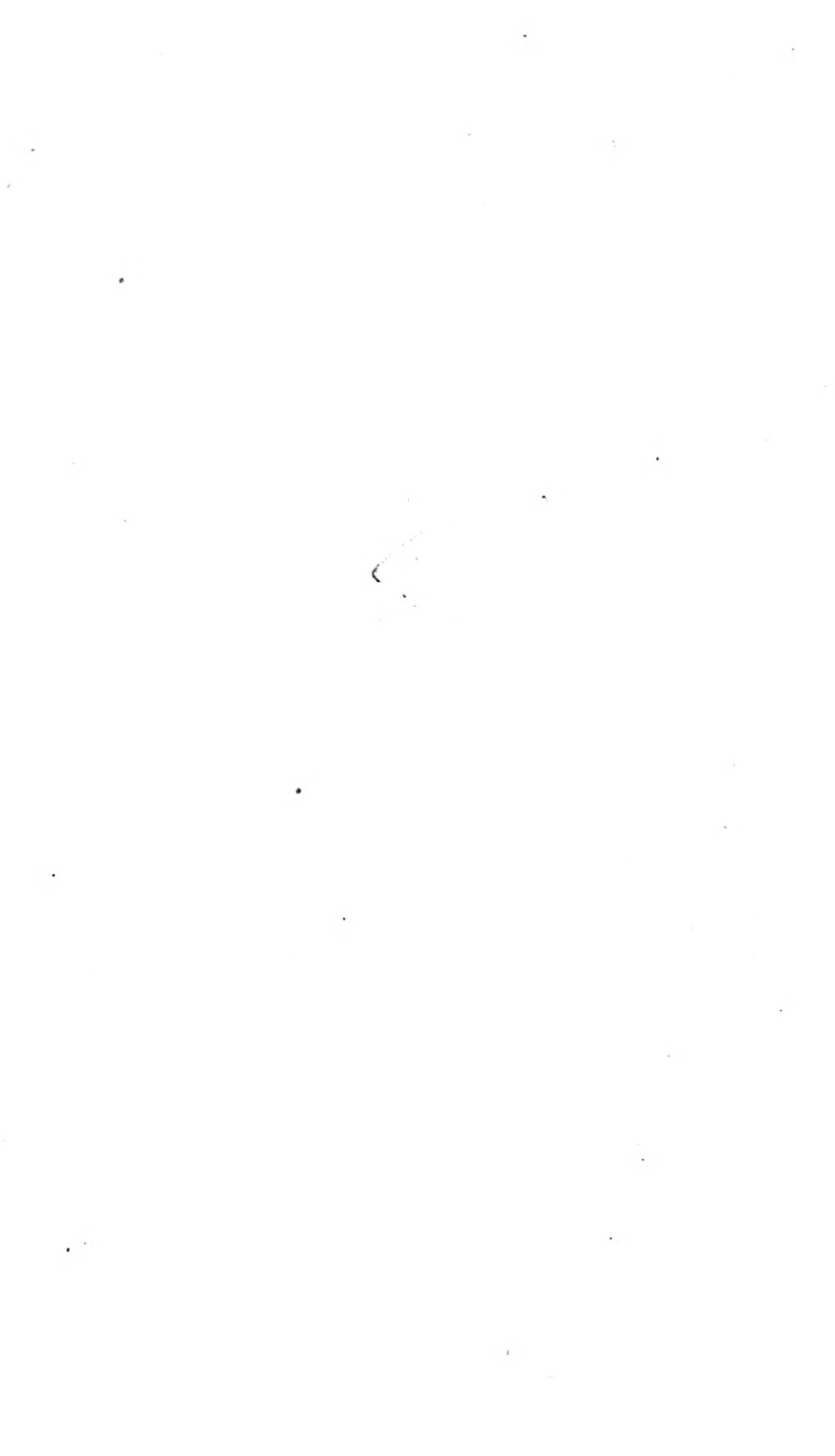
#### CONCLUSION.

"The Atlantic ocean is the great highway of nations, the broad road that connects Eastern and Western civilization, commerce, arts, sciences, improvement and progress. Is there another State that has greater facilities, a more extensive sea front, better harbors, and a fairer position on this great ocean path than South Carolina. If the West was ever so fair, if it was ever so fruitful, if it even were to produce twice what can be gathered from our fields, the thousands of miles that they are removed from the principal shipping ports to the markets of the world, are an obstacle which they never can overcome by ever so many railroads and inland navigation facilities. And this great advantage of position will become of greater influence upon the prosperity of every inhabitant of this State the more our immense resources are developed. Heretofore we cared for nothing but agriculture, and that even of a most imperfect kind, looking to the staples alone, such as cotton, rice, etc., for our wealth; but then our most distant plantation was within three hundred miles of our exportation mart. Now, we want to retain all our great agricultural interests; but we want also to mine our minerals, to make our own furniture, smelt our own iron, make our own glass, crockery and stoneware; in fact, we want help to do our own work, and we want especially to manufacture our own cotton. It is admitted 'that the South not only has the finest region in the world for the cotton culture, but the best facilities and the greatest advantages for cotton manufactures. From its generous soil and mild winter climate, men can

live more cheaply, and realize larger profits from their great agricultural staples in the South than in the West, and vastly larger profits from manufactures of all kinds, than can be made in New England or even in Old England.' And what is thus said of the whole South, applies with more force and in a more perfect degree to our own Carolina. Enterprising men will find that both labor and capital can be invested nowhere with better prospects of large and unfailing profits, and nowhere will both be heartier welcomed and higher appreciated."

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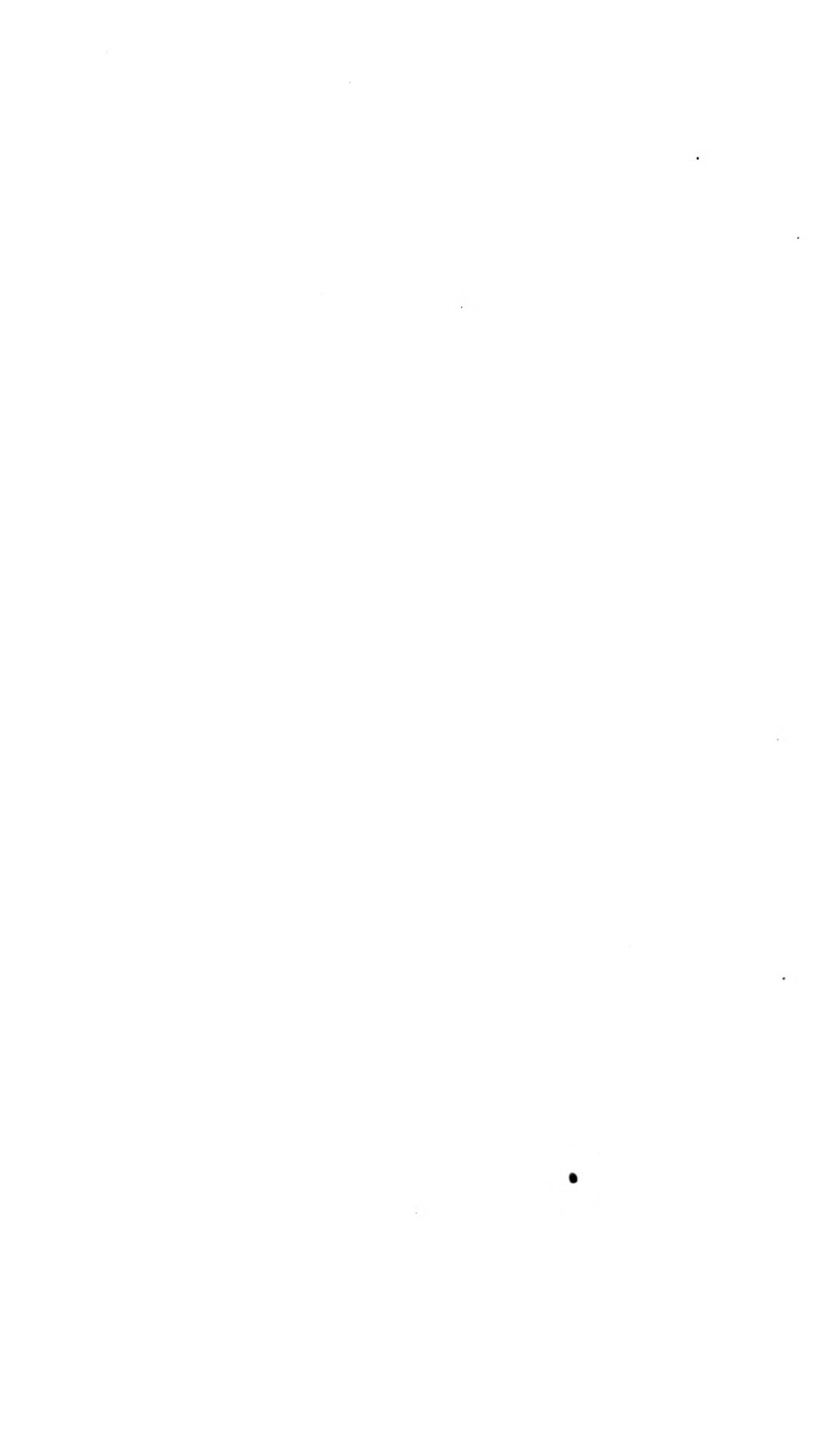
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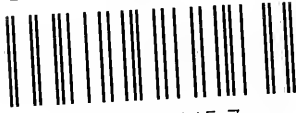








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